

**UC San Diego Health: Sanford Compassionate Communication Academy Fellowship
Currently Recruiting for 2025 Fall Cohort – DEADLINE TO APPLY: August 31, 2025**

ELIGIBILITY:

UC San Diego's [Center for Compassionate Communication](#) is recruiting clinically active UC San Diego physicians, nurses, and APPs for the [UC San Diego Health: Sanford Compassionate Communication Academy Fellowship](#). We are particularly interested in candidates who have a strong drive to advance compassionate communication in their Department or Division.

Once a candidate is nominated by a Department or Division chair and/or another departmental leader, the Center for Compassionate Communication will reach out to the candidate with an application link to formally apply to the Fellowship and confirm their eligibility in the program. We are looking for a diversity of fellows to represent all UC San Diego Departments and Divisions.

ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES MUST:

- Have the flexibility to attend all scheduled sessions (see calendar below or [here](#)); and,
- Have leadership support post-training to disseminate curricular offerings that bolster the skills of their colleagues within their respective department or division.

SELECTION PROCESS:

Fellowship candidates are nominated by their leadership, then strongly encouraged to formally apply online by Center for Compassionate Communication faculty. Faculty members are also welcome to apply on their own [here](#), without nomination or invitation, if desired.

2025 FELLOWSHIP TRAINING BREAKDOWN

Fall Dates at a Glance (September – December 2025)

Step 1 – Foundations Course

- September 11 – 12 (2 days), from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. in-person

Step 2 – Asynchronous Learning

- Approximately 5 hours

Step 3 – Media Interview Course

- 1 day (either October 1, 2, or 3) from 8 – 10 a.m. (2 hours) via Zoom

Step 4 – Applications Course

- October 29 – 30 (2 days), from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. in-person

Step 5 – Facilitation Practicum & Graduation

- December 10 – 11 (2 days), from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. in-person

FELLOWSHIP IMPACT

Participants describe this Fellowship as being transformative to their connection with medicine, as well as their discoveries on both personal and professional levels.

Read what past Fellows have to say about their experience:

"This makes me reimagine what our job even means - what our purpose is at the bedside."

"Calling this a train-the-trainer program diminishes the impact of what we are learning and how much we are being transformed by this process. We are really ambassadors, not just fellows."

"I was feeling so burned out, but this training has made me connect with myself more compassionately, which is also impacting my time with patients."

Sincerely,



Evonne Kaplan-Liss, MD
Fellowship Co-Director
Center Director



Gary Buckholz, MD
Fellowship Co-Director

Sanford Institute for Empathy and Compassion Center for Compassionate Communication

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empathyandcompassion.ucsd.edu | [Fellowship Page](#)